



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: P. BAUER *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 3724

Application No.: 08/659,046

Examiner: Clark F. Dexter

Filed: June 3, 1996

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-309

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
CUTTING BODIES HAVING A NON-
CIRCULAR CROSS-SECTION

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 24 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 18, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the above-identified application for the Examiner's review and consideration.

In the Claims:

A marked up version of the rewritten claims, showing insertions and deletions is included in Appendix A. A clean set of all pending claims is attached as Appendix B.

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

19. (Twice amended) A bone plate cutting assembly for shearing by transverse forces a bone plate having a non-circular cross-section and a longitudinal axis, comprising:
 a first shearing element comprising
 a handle for manipulation of the first shearing element; and
 a first head attached to the handle and having a front face, a back face, and at least one outer surface, the first head having a slot through the front and back faces and extending from the outer surface towards an interior of the first head; and
 a second shearing element comprising
 a handle for manipulation of the second shearing element; and
 a second head attached to the handle and having a front face, a back face, and at least one outer surface, the second head having a slot through the front and back faces and extending from the outer surface towards an interior of the second head;
 wherein the first shearing element is separate and unconnected from the second shearing element and independently movable thereof and each slot has at least one bevelled